

to serve as a principle on which to base
women's wages
On the contrary,

"The essential principle which should govern all
systems of
remuneration, whether in private industry or in
public employment, in manual working as well as brain working
occupations, is
that of clearly defined Occupational or Standard
Rates, to be
prescribed for all persons of like industrial grade,
and, whether
computed by time or by output, to be settled by
collective agree-
ment between representative organisations of the
employers and
the employed, and enforced, but as minima only,
on the whole
grade or vocation There is no more reason for such
Occupational
or Standard Rates being made to differ according to
the workers*
sex than according to their race, creed, height or
weight A
National Minimum of rest-time, education,
sanitation and sub-
sistence should be imposed by law, in which there
should be no
sex inequality "

Her Report—since here, as elsewhere, the
Webbs are
nothing if not comprehensive—includes a plan
of taxation
by means of which the National Minimum
proposals could
be financed Her plan for the regulation and
maintenance
of wages is as thorough, and as realistic, as the
plan for the
State control of the supply of coal which he
sets out in *How
to Pay for the War* In regard to both, they
are moving
wholly in the region of the practical, and of
the political

To try to sum the effect on them of the war-
years is to
attempt the impossible Possible, however, is
it to detach
one very important effect Their minds were,
in a wholly
new fashion, directed not only to political
theory, but to
political action, and to political action as a
sphere of effort
for the public good to which they must direct

their energies
His standing for London University as a
Labour candidate
in 1918 was something more than a gesture
It was the
first step on a path that was to compel them to
break right
away from the planned routine they had
pursued together
for nearly thirty years